

**PATENT**Docket No.: AT000040  
Customer No. 000024737**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus for recording speech information of a dictation and for subsequent transfer of the recorded speech information to a speech recognition device for off-line speech recognition, said apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving the speech information of the dictation;

recording means for recording the received speech information of the dictation ~~in~~ during a recording mode of the recording apparatus;

transfer means for transferring recorded speech information of the dictation to the speech recognition device ~~in~~ during a transfer mode of the recording apparatus, which speech recognition device is arranged for off-line speech recognition and for recognizing text information to be assigned to the transferred speech information, the quality of the recognized text information depending on the quality of the received speech information;

speech quality test means for testing whether a quality of the speech information received ~~in~~ during the recording mode is sufficient for obtaining a predefined quality of the recognized text information in response to the speech recognition device processing the speech information transferred by the transfer means in the transfer mode, wherein the speech quality test means continuously tests ~~at least one selected from the group consisting of~~ (i) a signal-to-noise ratio of the received speech signal, (ii) a level of the received speech signal, and (iii) a velocity of speech in the received speech signal during the recording mode, and wherein the speech quality test means outputs a quality information signal during the recording mode as a function of testing the corresponding signal-to-noise ratio of the received speech signal, the level

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of the received speech signal, and the velocity of speech in the received speech signal;  
and

feedback means responsive to the quality information signal ~~in~~ during the recording mode for transferring feedback information ~~in~~ immediately during the recording mode, wherein the feedback information represents at least one of a an immediate corrective measure and a an immediate result of the corresponding quality test of the speech quality test means.

2-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The recording device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the feedback means transfers feedback information that provides an immediate indication how the quality of the received speech information can be improved by measures of the user.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The recording device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the receiving means is connected for receiving the speech information via one of a telephone line and a data line.

9. (Currently amended) A recording apparatus for recording speech information of a dictation and for subsequent transfer of the recorded speech information to a speech recognition device for off-line speech recognition, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving the speech information of the dictation;

means for recording the received speech information of the dictation ~~in~~ during a recording mode of the recording apparatus;

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means for transferring recorded speech information of the dictation to the speech recognition device in during a transfer mode of the recording apparatus, wherein the speech recognition device is arranged for off-line speech recognition and for recognizing text information to be assigned to the transferred speech information, and wherein a quality of the recognized text information depends on a quality of the received speech information;

speech quality test means for continuously testing whether a quality of the speech information received in during the recording mode is sufficient for obtaining a predefined quality of the recognized text information in response to the speech recognition device processing the speech information transferred by the transfer means in the transfer mode, the speech quality test means continuously determining (i) a signal-to-noise ratio of the received speech signal, determining (ii) a signal level of the received speech signal, and determining (iii) a speech velocity of words in the received speech signal during the recording mode; and

feedback means responsive to quality information of the speech quality test means in during the recording mode for transferring feedback information immediately during the recording mode, wherein responsive to one of determining a signal-to-noise ratio below a signal-to-noise threshold amount, determining a signal level below a signal level threshold amount, and determining a speech velocity above a speech velocity threshold amount, the speech quality test means provides quality information to the feedback means, further wherein the feedback information represents a an immediate quality result of the quality test of the speech quality test means and provides an immediate indication how the quality of the received speech information can be improved.